

breast cancer, discovering the cause, and identifying preventative measures. It is an important bill in the fight against breast cancer, and I am proud to support it.

I also want to take a moment to recognize the volunteers of Breast Cancer Deadline 2020 for continuing to advocate for these critical issues.

□ 1215

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. YOUNG of Iowa asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the month of October is quickly approaching. As you know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time to shed light on a battle many women and men in this Nation have to endure.

According to the American Cancer Society, almost 250,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer will have been diagnosed in the United States among women this year.

Mr. Speaker, this statistic is heart-breaking. There are very few people who have not been affected by this horrific disease. We have already lost too many family members, neighbors, folks in our communities, and friends to the painful fight, the reality that is this disease.

In Congress, we must stand by our brave women and men tirelessly fighting. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have joined over 270 of my colleagues as a cosponsor of H.R. 1197, the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act. This critical, bipartisan bill would establish a commission to help end breast cancer by 2020.

Through facilitating public-private partnerships, encouraging advancements in promising research, and coordinating research activities, this commission would help to get us closer to a cure and give patients and families hope.

I am here today to honor those who have fought this fight and won, and I am humbled and saddened to remember those who have lost it. Those affected and recovering from breast cancer deserve to know their elected Representatives stand with them.

Actions speak louder than words. It is time to make real progress on the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act and finally get the supporting bill signed into law.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF SHIMON PERES

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the world in mourning the loss of Shimon Peres, former prime minister

and president of Israel and one of the country's last surviving founding fathers.

Peres dedicated his life to the difficult challenge of establishing a lasting peace for Israel and its neighbors. He negotiated the landmark Oslo Accords and, in 1994, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work and commitment to ending ongoing violence.

Near the end of his presidency, I had the honor of sitting down with President Peres at the Peres Center for Peace on a trip to Israel. I was struck by his vision for the future and his commitment to peace no matter what the obstacles.

For seven decades, Shimon Peres has been a trusted partner to the United States and helped to forge the unbreakable alliance between our two countries.

Two years ago, we held a ceremony here in the Capitol to award him with the Congressional Gold Medal—the highest civilian award Congress can bestow and the first to go to a sitting president of Israel.

As the world mourns the death of this visionary leader, let us ensure that his legacy lives on and recommit ourselves to a lasting peace for Israel and our entire world.

OBAMACARE'S CO-OPS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week the House took action to provide relief to hundreds of thousands of Americans who lost their insurance due to yet another flawed piece of the President's healthcare law.

Despite spending over \$2 billion in startup taxpayer money, 17 of ObamaCare's 23 CO-OPs have collapsed, leaving half a million individuals without coverage.

This is a double blow for many Americans who were already forced to purchase insurance through these CO-OPs after losing their own plans and now are left with two options: either quickly find adequate coverage and face paying their deductible twice, or pay a steep penalty at the end of the year—all due to the law's own failure.

Meanwhile, these CO-OPs, sold as a public option feature in ObamaCare, showed warning signs of insolvency since their inception, plagued with flawed business models and inept management.

The bill we passed, H.R. 954, simply shields individuals who lost their insurance as a result of one of these failed CO-OPs from being penalized under the individual mandate through the end of the year.

On top of higher premiums, rising costs, and difficulty accessing care, Americans should not be penalized for the outright failure of a program that is preventing compliance.

NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 25th anniversary of the opening of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. The National Civil Rights Museum is located at the former Lorraine Motel, the site of the tragic assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

From that horrific incident rose from the ashes a phoenix in a wonderful story of the efforts and the achievements of many—both Black and White—to achieve a more perfect union in the civil rights for people in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everybody who has a chance to go to Memphis and tour the civil rights museum and pay tribute to the civil rights soldiers who made America more what it was intended to be and make it a more perfect union.

CONGRATULATING OMAK AND EPHRATA FFA CHAPTERS

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to two central Washington FFA chapters that recently received national awards for their creativity, leadership, and commitment to community.

FFA expects their members to be leaders on campus and foster school community. In this respect, the Omak High School FFA has been honored as a finalist for the National Model of Innovation Award for development of their officer mascot social media challenge. Through this campaign, the Omak FFA helped to raise chapter morale and school awareness of FFA.

Not to be outdone, the Ephrata High School FFA is a finalist for the National Model of Innovation Award for community development. By partnering with the local rotary, Ephrata FFA raised crop signs next to fields throughout the region so passing drivers could take interest and learn what was growing in the fields.

As an FFA alumnus myself, I am proud to see the good work that these young men and women are doing and wish them the best of luck at the FFA national convention in October.

BELLAMY COMMONS REVITALIZES COMMUNITY

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this Friday, the Bellamy Commons will emerge as a new community fixture on Jefferson Avenue in Buffalo, New York.

Upon opening, the Bellamy Commons will become home for many, with all 30 affordable apartments already filled. This space will also serve as the new home for the Buffalo Black Achievers Museum to share success stories of Buffalo African Americans.

This project was a collaboration of Federal, State, local, and private investment along with the aid of over \$4 million in Federal low-income housing tax credits. These credits encourage development and construction in communities that are often neglected and increase affordable housing options.

Developments like the Bellamy Commons have the power to create, encourage, and empower more residential and commercially integrated neighborhoods. A full community effort is something we are no stranger to in western New York. Over the years, it has been a key in revitalizing our region.

It is time that we begin to see the same development and much-needed investment in Buffalo's east side neighborhood.

NATIONAL HUNGER ACTION MONTH

(Mrs. WALORSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Hunger Action Month. Throughout September, families and advocates, volunteers and experts, and community leaders and elected officials have worked together to highlight the problem of hunger in this country.

This summer, I had the privilege of seeing some of the great work being done on the front lines in Indiana's Second District, and I brought their insights back to Congress.

This month, the Agriculture Committee's Nutrition Subcommittee, which I chair, held its 17th hearing of the 114th Congress examining the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP. We looked at innovative approaches States are taking to help those who fall into the safety net find good jobs and lift themselves out of poverty. These hearings have laid the groundwork for real reform.

Mr. Speaker, no one in this Nation should go hungry, and that is why House Republicans have a plan—a better way—to fight poverty. Our plan puts new ideas to the test so we can stop the cycle of poverty and end hunger in America.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, here we are a few short weeks before national elections, so it is a good time to take account of the outlandish flood of money pouring into the Presidential

campaign. The American people don't want this out-of-control spending anymore.

Why should it cost 16 times more to conduct an election in 2016 than it did in 1980 in inflation-adjusted dollars? The last time I looked, we still have just one President, 100 Senators, and 435 Congressional Districts. So why the outlandish increase in campaign spending?

The public gets sick and tired of the TV campaign ads. It costs a fortune. All the while, the public is becoming more disillusioned and distrustful of our very instruments of government.

We need campaign finance reform. It is far too much that candidates have to raise today. Actually, in 1980, it cost \$107 million for President Carter and President Reagan to conduct that Presidential campaign. Already this year, \$1.6 billion has been spent—16 times as much as 1980.

It is no surprise that, of the largest givers of the financial industry, not one of them has gone to jail after the financial crash of 2008.

My constitutional amendment, H.J. Res. 38, grants Congress and our States the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in Federal, State, and local elections.

So when the Presidential candidates pass through your town, ask them exactly what they intend to do about out-of-control campaign spending and when they intend to do it. How about making campaign finance reform the first bill they send up to Congress in 2017 as H.R. 1.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, with Breast Cancer Awareness Month right around the corner, the time is now to show American families that we are working to end breast cancer. In fact, we have a bill, H.R. 1197, the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act, which has 273 bipartisan cosponsors.

It should be brought to the floor immediately for debate and a vote. Why? Because even with so much advancement in medical research, a woman's chance of developing breast cancer has increased from one in eleven in 1975 to one in eight today. This year, over 40,000 women and over 400 men will die of breast cancer in this country alone.

H.R. 1197 will focus on identifying strategies for the primary prevention of breast cancer and identifying methods to prevent breast cancer metastasis, thereby saving lives. With such broad bipartisan support, there is no reason why the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act should not be brought up for a vote as quickly as possible.

I want to thank the large majority of my colleagues for cosponsoring the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act, and I encourage the Republican leadership to bring H.R. 1197 to the floor right away.

CONGRATULATING U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the United States Olympic Team, some of whom are visiting Capitol Hill today.

This year's team won 121 medals overall to lead the world for the sixth straight games and win the most medals in U.S. history. They won 46 gold, 37 silver, and 38 bronze. Notably, 61 of the medals were brought home by American women.

Overall, 210 American athletes contributed to the medal count, including 32 multiple medalists and 13 who won multiple Gold Medals. Of the 27 sports in which U.S. athletes competed, the U.S. brought home hardware in 20, including Overland Park's own Jack Sock taking home the gold in mixed doubles in tennis with his partner, Bethanie Mattek-Sands.

Mr. Speaker, this is the most decorated team in U.S. history. I want to congratulate all of the athletes for their amazing performances on behalf of our Nation and thank them for making all of us proud here at home in the United States of America.

□ 1230

VETERANS OWED A DEBT OF GRATITUDE

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, our Nation owes our veterans a debt of gratitude for putting their lives on the line, but too often, all we do is pay lip service to our military heroes.

This past weekend, I hosted a veterans housing symposium, where I connected veterans with housing professionals and experts to answer questions about their housing benefits, mortgage options, and tax exemptions, and displacement assistance. Our veterans have earned our Nation's gratitude, and I urge this Congress to do more to serve our military families.

In mentioning gratitude and service, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge an outstanding and brilliant servant, Mimi Mesirow, who is moving on after 20 years of service to the Second Congressional District of Illinois.

Mimi was an original hire of the Honorable Jesse Jackson, Jr., and was kind enough to stay on and help me launch my grant operation when I came to Congress. Mimi secured millions of dollars in funding for the Second District